Tag, you're it.

How does street art reflect socioeconomic and political change in the Philippines, see **page 11**.

Reflecting on Hamilton

How has Hamilton changed in the past three and few years? Will Schink '15 reflects on **page 8**.

Drop the puck!

Read about the upcoming Hamilton hockey season on **page 15**.

The Spectator

Thursday, Nov. 13, 2014

Volume LV Number 10

Hamilton struggles in energy use competition

by Ilana Schwartz '17
News Writer

On and off the Hill, environmental sustainability is a pressing issue. Hamilton participates in a competition every year with other area colleges to monitor energy use. However, there are many initiatives being done at both the governmental and local levels in order to slow this damage and preserve the world. One of these initiatives is the Campus Conservation Nationals (CCN), "the largest electricity and water reduction competition for colleges and universities in the world," according to the CCN website. Hamilton College has participated in CCN's competition for the past four years.

CCN has several main goals. First, it aims at informing students about energy use and the benefits of conserving as much energy as possible in the different buildings on campus. With more informed students, the CCN encourages starting sustainability initiatives on their campus. It also promotes long-term application of this knowledge by conserving energy both in college and after graduation. CCN encourages behavioral changes amongst student communities in order lessen the amount of carbon dioxide emissions among college campuses. Although hundreds of schools nationally participate in the competition, Hamilton competes in a smaller group, the NY6 Region which includes Hamilton, Colgate, St. Lawrence, Hobart and William Smith, Union and Skidmore. The similarity in size and location make the competition more accurate and fair.

The past three competitions took place in the spring; however, the coordinators decided to move it to the fall this year to avoid conflicting with other environmental competitions. In the past three competitions, Hamilton did very well. In the spring of 2012, Hamilton came in second place. In 2013, Hamilton came in first place, and during the spring of 2014, Hamilton came in second place by a very narrow margin.

The competition runs for five weeks. The first two weeks are the baseline measurement weeks, while the last three are measured and compared to the first two. Saving more energy in the last three weeks compared to the first two would be a positive trend. This year, the competition started on Oct. 29 and will end on Nov. 19. This means that energy use at all the schools may rise because of the season. During the past three competitions, the temperature got warmer as the season moved further into springtime, however, now, moving closer to winter, energy use will obviously increase.

However, Hamilton is doing surprisingly poorly this year, with an increase in energy use by 19.4 percent thus far in the competition. One difference between Hamilton and the other five schools is that Hamilton has four residence halls that are heated electrically: Bundy East, Bundy West, Milbank and Babbitt. Students in these residence halls can control the heat for their individual rooms. "The net result of all of this is that Hamilton's electrical consumption in dorms is very large, primarily due to the 4 dorms on electrical heat. And therefore, so too is our capacity to save big or lose big, depending on the timing of the competitions," said Brian Hansen, Hamilton's sustainability coordinator.

Another difference between Hamilton's energy use and that of other schools is that according to Risa Nagel '16, president of Hamilton Environmental Action Group (HEAG), "Hamilton has 2 percent renewable energy so 98 percent of what we are using comes from coal and natural

see Environmental impact, page 3

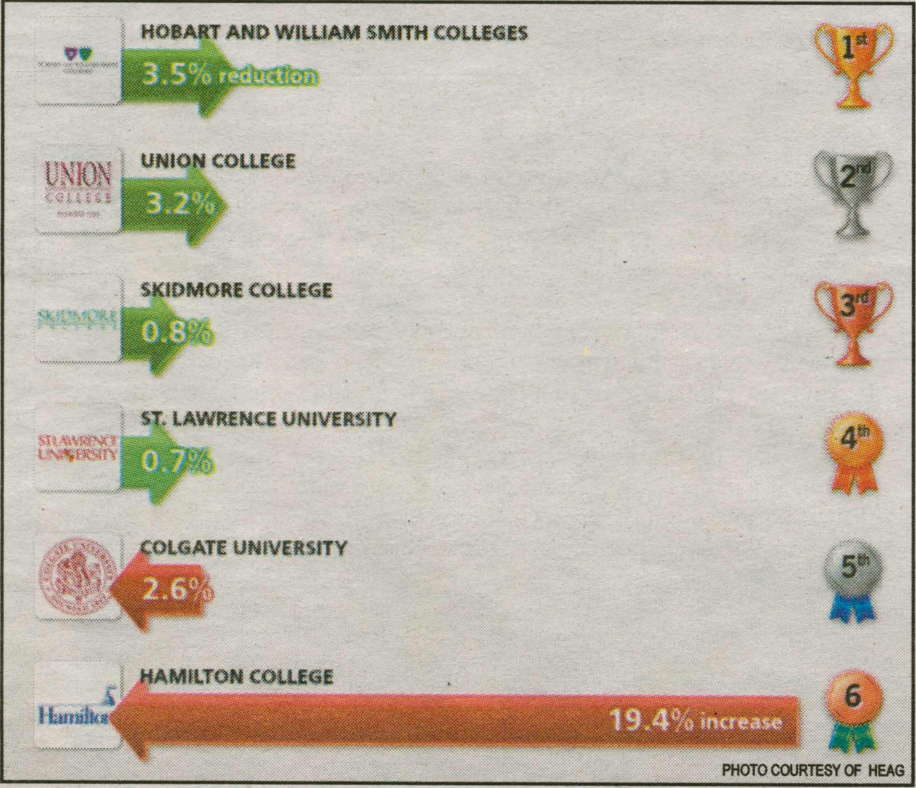
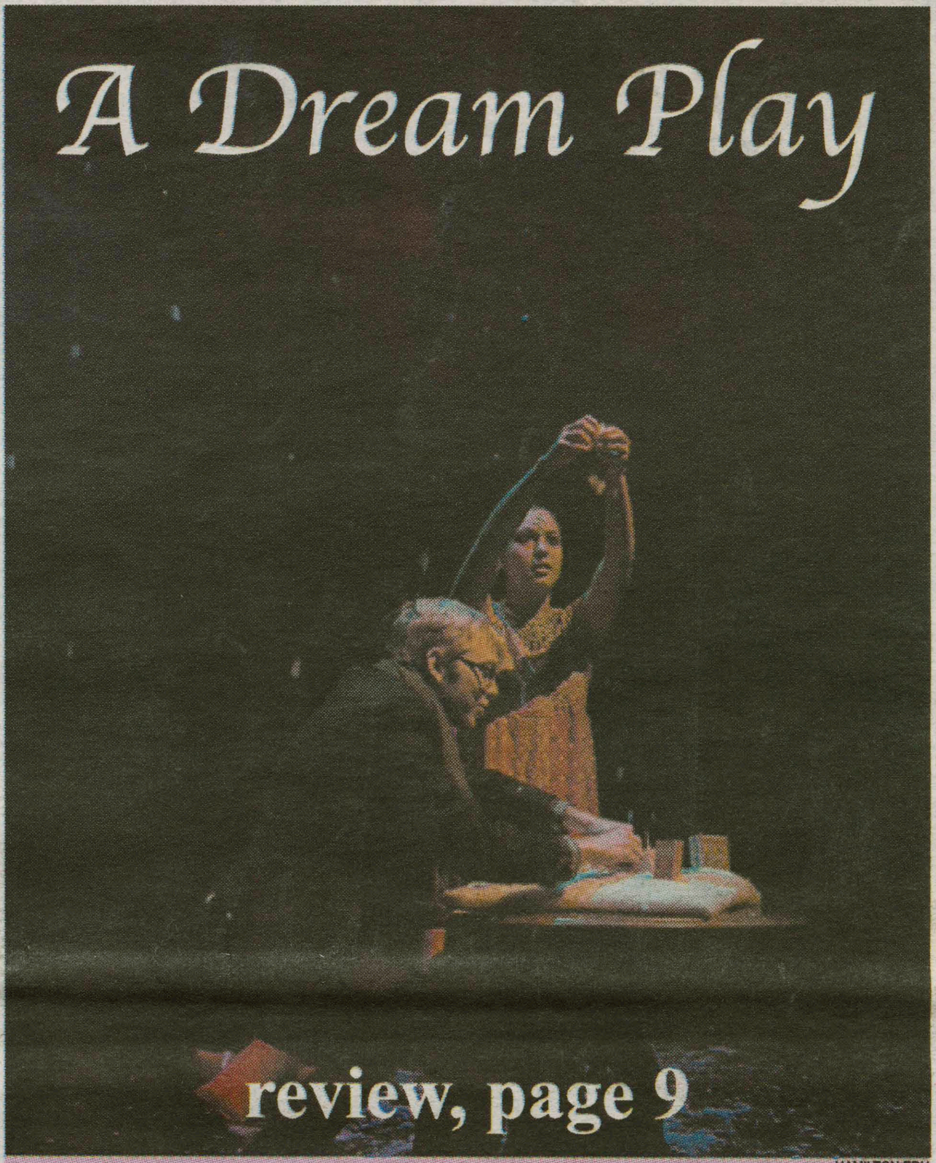


PHOTO COURTESY OF HEAG

Hamilton is currently in last place in Campus Conservation Nationals, an electricity and water consumption competition.



HAMILTON.EDU

New signs by crosswalk hope to promote caution

by Brian Sobotko '16
News Editor

When walking across campus, students tend to show more caution to avoid walking across a map than when walking across a busy town road. Following what Director of Campus Safety Fran Manfredo calls "several close calls" at the crosswalk on College Hill Road, Hamilton will be placing two signs, one on either side of the street, encouraging pedestrians to "STOP" and "make eye contact with driver before crossing." According to Manfredo, pedestrian recklessness has been an ongoing issue. There are several close calls a year, in which students, often wearing headphones or racing across the street on bikes, fail to yield to cars.

"According to the law, drivers are required to yield to pedestrians in the crosswalk, pedestrians are prohibited from "walking into the path of a vehicle which is so close that it is impractical for the driver to yield," and vehicles always have the right of way where there is no designated crosswalk," Manfredo says. "In addition, bicyclists should never enter the crosswalk without first coming to a complete stop. Both law and common sense dictate that you should always cross in a crosswalk after stopping and looking in both directions."

PHOTO BY BRIAN SOBOTKO '16

These signs will go up on either side of the College Hill Road crosswalk.

Manfredo, who has been worried about this issue for some time, was approached by a faculty member this year who also expressed concern. Manfredo hopes this small and simple reminder will promote safety and personal responsibility among the student body. The signs will go up Friday, Nov. 12.

Death penalty panel sparks intense debate

by Shannon O'Brien '15
Senior Editor

Last Thursday, November, 6, students, faculty, and staff crowded into the Bradford Auditorium to hear a heated debate about the use of the death penalty in American society. The event, which was sponsored by the Levitt Center, featured Senior Counsel at the Constitution Project Sarah Turberville and New York Law School Professor Robert Blecker. Hamilton Professor of Government and Law Frank Anechiarico moderated the forum.

Anticipating the contentious responses the debate could illicit, Professor Anechiarico reminded audience members to remain civil before the event began. "Attack the idea, not the speaker," he told the audience.

Turberville presented her position first, arguing that the death penalty should have no future in America. She described capital punishment as "a fraught enterprise for all involved," explaining, "It's unpractical, it's unfair, it's terribly costly and harmful for the victim's family." A better punishment than the death penalty, Turberville argued, would be life without parole.

> **"It's unpractical, it's unfair, it's terribly costly, and it's harmful for the victim's family."**
>
> *—Sarah Turberville, Senior Counsel at the Constitution Project on the dealth penalty*

Turberville explained that she is against the death penalty because of the damaging repercussions it can have on the criminal justice system. As she stated, "Those with the capital don't get the punishment," revealing how the death penalty threatens the integrity of due process and is biased towards sentencing poorer citizens who cannot pay to defend themselves with quality lawyers. Likewise, the death penalty perpetuates America's legacy of violent discrimination against people of color, which Turberville noted should be reason enough to repeal it. As Turberville explained, repealing the death penalty "can take implicit and explicit biases" out of the criminal justice system or at least help eliminate the risk of those biases.

Turberville also argued that the death penalty is extremely costly for states. As an example, she pointed out that California recently spent four billion dollars on just 14 death row cases. To further deter audience members from supporting capital punishment, Turberville revealed that countries such as China, Yemen, Sudan, North Korea, Saudi Arabia, Iran and Iraq, along with the United States, are among the few countries that have carried out the death penalty in the past five years.

Blecker structured his twenty-minute speech as a series of rebuttals against Turberville's argument. To Blecker, the idea that the criminal justice system will be fixed by replacing the death penalty with life without parole "is absolutely absurd." In the beginning of his speech, he mentioned a few times that he had spent many hours in prisons, and he knew the conditions in which the prisoners were living.

Blecker described himself as a retributionist, meaning that he is committed to ending the conviction of innocent people to the death penalty while making sure that "punishment matches the crime" for those who are not innocent.

He continued his speech by trying to refute Turberville's argument that the death penalty perpetuates racial biases and discrimination in America, claiming instead that racial prejudice is not a factor in death penalty sentences. Although he admitted that it is much more likely that a person would be sentenced to death row if the victim were white rather than black, he maintained that this "does not mean that we devalue black life, or that that should be the only interpretation."

Blecker concluded his speech with a string of dramatic, devastating anecdotes of especially violent crimes. Many of these anecdotes involved graphic descriptions of violence committed against women. At the conclusion of his speech, Blecker described the comfortable conditions of the prisons he had visited, claiming that prisoners played baseball and even suntanned. He argued that prisoners should not have any access to commissary and should instead be subjected solely to eating "nutri-loaves," which he claimed held all nutritional requirements needed to sustain human life.

In their short rebuttal speeches, Turberville and Blecker attempted to offer more nuanced views of their positions. Turberville revealed that although she supports life without parole in place of the death penalty, she ultimately thinks that deescalating life sentences is also essential to fixing the broken American prison system. To counter Blecker's claim about the conditions of prisons, Turberville explained that prisoners do not receive fair treatment while in prison, nor do they enjoy in lavish—or even standard—living conditions. She argued that prison conditions should be as similar to the free world as possible, because the majority of prisoners will one day be returning to the free world.

In his rebuttal, Blecker continued to offer more emotionally jarring anecdotes of what he nebulously described as "the worst of the worst of the worst" criminals, claiming that he has met several of these criminals and believes they deserve to die.

The subsequent question and answer section was perhaps best summarized by Professor of Sociology Yvonne Zylan's question to Blecker in which she asked him to, "Tell us your principle, not your story." Although the following questions asked by audience members suggested that the issue of capital punishment remained divisive, it seemed evident that the majority of audience members in the auditorium supported Turberville's position by the end of the forum.

AMHERST BATES BOWDOIN COLBY CONNECTICUT COLLEGE

NESCAC NEWS

by Kirsty Warren '18
News Writer

Connecticut College senior wins $11,000 scholarship

Maureen Smolskis '15, an international relations major, won an $11,000 Women in Defense HORIZONS scholarship. Smolskis is one of only four women nationally to receive 2014-15 HORIZONS Scholarships from WID, a nonprofit networking and development organization for defense industry professionals, according to an article on the Connecticut College website. Awards are based on academic achievement, participation in defense and national security activities, work experience and financial need. Smolskis, who plans to use the money to finish her studies at Conn and graduate in December, wants to pursue a defense career because of the effect terrorism had on the United States during her childhood. She hopes to enroll in the U.S. Coast Guard's Officer Candidate School next year.

"I have learned how to think in a variety of ways and to work with diverse groups of people. This not only made me a good candidate for the HORIZONS scholarship, but will help me in my future career," she said. "My experiences at Conn and through the programs here have prepared me for the Coast Guard or for whatever my future career will be."

Terrorism lecture sparks protest at Bowdoin

A small group of Bowdoin students protested in response to a lecture on the War on Terror by retired U.S. army colonel David Hunt. According to *The Bowdoin Orient*, the students chanted, "Bowdoin students are not used to hearing racist rhetoric like this man has just presented. Our problem is not terrorism from Islamic extremists but racism and fear-mongering dividing our country."

"It's interesting that Bowdoin gave him a platform to speak like this," said Christopher Wedeman '15, a founding member of Bowdoin's chapter of Students for Justice in Palestine. "In a speech about the War on Terror, not a single word was spoken about the biggest state sponsor of terror in the Middle East. Which would maybe be a tie between Israel and the United States."

Vice President for Communications and Public Affairs Scott Hood said that the College welcomed Hunt as a speaker because his viewpoint is not often heard at Bowdoin, and because of the importance of foreign policy in the Middle East.

"Terrorism is clearly an important topic, and Colonel Hunt offers a perspective based on a long and distinguished career in the military," he said. "His point of view is one that we don't often hear firsthand at Bowdoin."

Wesleyan launches new programs to boost diversity

Faculty at Wesleyan College gathered on Nov. 6 to discuss programs devoted to increasing the diversity of the campus, specifically the Veterans Posse Program and the Wesleyan Math and Science Scholars Program.

According to *The Wesleyan Argus*, Associate Professor of Chemistry T. David Westmoreland discussed a course which aims to provide support and motivation for underrepresented groups in the fields of physical science and mathematics. These groups include first-generation college students, ethnic and racial minorities, low-income students and women. The class, a weekly colloquium, introduces students to a different math or science professor each Friday, who in turn teach from a broad range of topics, from preparing for midterm exams to learning about mindfulness.

"The group of students has formed a tight cohort, but it is too soon to judge the overall success," Westmoreland said. "We will be surveying them relentlessly over the next year and a half."

MIDDLEBURY TRINITY TUFTS WESLEYAN WILLIAMS

Levitt Center looks to bring TEDx to Hamilton

by Kirsty Warren '18
News Writer

The Levitt Center wants to bring a TEDx event to the Hill to capture the spirit of TED, an organization dedicated to sharing and spreading ideas. A planning committee has been hosting meetings and discussions to make that goal a reality. TEDx events are planned and coordinated by local communities under a free license granted by TED. They serve as platforms to share live TED-like talks and videos.

"The Levitt Center is interested in organizing and hosting a TEDx to spur conversation among students and faculty from a diversity of backgrounds about important and interesting topics; the TEDx Program is designed to help communities, organizations and individuals to spark conversation and connection through local TED-like experiences. At TEDx events, a screening of TED Talks videos — or a combination of live presenters and TED Talks videos — sparks deep conversation and connections at the local level," Eren Shultz '15 said. He also mentioned that the Levitt Social Innovation Team, which includes Shultz, Sharif Shrestha '17, Meghan O'Sullivan '15, Thomas Figueroa '15, Andy Chen '16, Zach Pilson '16, Tsion Tesfaye '16 and Lisa Yang '17, has been contemplating the idea of hosting a TEDx talk since February of 2014.

"There appears to be a great deal of interest and there is still plenty of time for people, departments, and offices to become involved," Associate Director of the Levitt Center Chris Willemsen said.

"Specifically, the Social Innovation Team is interested in helping to host a TEDx in order to bring to the surface and stimulate more conversations about social innovation and social entrepreneurship. The Levitt Center, over the past year, has developed a host of new programming and resources, including the new Social Innovation lab located at the back of the Levitt Center, at helping to foster socially innovative ideas and accelerate and support students with ideas for socially and/or commercially entrepreneurial ventures," Shultz said. He emphasized that the committee is very open to new ideas.

"After an all-campus email was sent out by the Levitt Center this fall and an initial interest meeting was held, it turned out that many people and organizations, including the OCC, Student Assembly and individual students and faculty have been interested in hosting a TEDx for quite some time. While the planning the event is still very much in the preliminary stages, the ground work done by the Levitt Center has consolidated the conversation and allowed the many people and organizations interested in hosting an event to combine efforts and collaborate to host an event and come up with a topic that has broad appeal to the campus community," Shultz said.

Because the planning is still in preliminary stages, the Innovation Team did not identify any specific speakers they are interested in hosting. Shultz said that after hosting interest meetings, the group made lists of topics that will be narrowed down and then presented to the campus community. The committee will put any list of narrowed ideas to an all-campus vote before deciding on a topic for the event.

"We are aiming to select a topic that is narrow enough to be unique and provide some focus to the talk, but also broad enough to attract a diversity of speakers and appeal broadly to the campus community," Shultz said. He added that if Hamilton community members would like to contribute ideas, they can email eshultz@hamilton.edu or meosulli@hamiton.edu. The planning committee continues to be open to new ideas for topics and speakers and Shultz said students, faculty or staff not currently involved are welcome to join the committee.

College works to cut its environmental impact

from Energy competition, page 1

gases, which are archaic fuels." In fact, only Skenandoa and the science center use geothermal energy, natural energy taken from the ground.

Hamilton's poor performance in the competition results from systemic issues more than anything else. It would require a lot of money and time in order to change the sources of energy for the majority of the buildings on campus. Although it would be difficult to make such long-term changes right now, there are many initiatives taking place around campus in order to improve sustainability. According to Nagel, HEAG "exists as an educational forum for students to understand the issues in the environment." HEAG members started "Cut the Cups," a campaign to eliminate paper cups in the dining halls and are working alongside the Levitt Leadership Institute in order to gain funding to purchase reusable mugs for Hamilton students. The group has also tried to eliminate the wipes in the gym and to minimize paper towel use around campus.

There are also several long-term initiatives taking place around campus. The most recent renovations on buildings, including the Science Center, Kirner-Johnson and Sadove, are built to Leadership in Energy & Environmental Design (LEED) Silver standards, which means that they consume far less energy than older buildings due to new technology added during the renovations. Physical Plant is also working on projects that will show positive five-year returns, such as replacing light fixtures in all buildings with efficient LEDs and fluorescent light bulbs. Physical Plant wants to replace the heating and boiling systems, as well as the windows and insulation systems in many of the older buildings. "Hamilton consumes 20 percent less energy today than it did in 2007," Hansen said. Also, according to Nagel, Hamilton invested in a few solar panels on KJ and as well as a wind turbine, which was replaced this past summer.

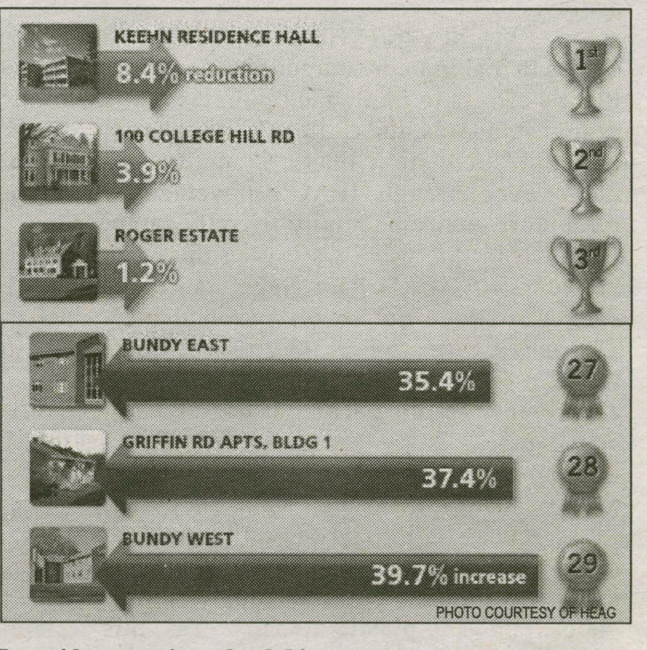


PHOTO COURTESY OF HEAG

Hamilton is holding an on-campus competition to reduce energy consumption.

The many initiatives happening around campus were unfortunately not enough to improve the performance in the energy conservation competition. However, Nagel stressed that Hamilton's issues do not revolve around the individual choices that people are making. Although taking shorter showers and using less paper are always encouraged, the main problems that Hamilton faces are systematic issues that will take time and money to fix, such as large use of fossil fuels.

Campus Safety Incident Report

In an effort to increase Campus Safety's transparency and draw attention to students' dangerous and destructive behaviors, *The Spectator* will publish a selection of the previous weekend's incidents each Thursday. The entire report is available in the online edition of *The Spectator.* Both Campus Safety and *The Spectator* will use their discretion regarding what is published.

Thursday, November 6, 2014

6:31 p.m. Smoke Detector Activation – Bundy East
10:05 p.m. Motor Vehicle Accident – Peters Lane
10:16 p.m. Noise Complaint – North Residence Hall

Friday, November 7, 2014

12:31 a.m. Fire Alarm Activation – 1 Anderson Road
2:16 a.m. Marijuana Complaint – Ferguson House
2:47 a.m. Medical Emergency – Residence Hall
3:02 p.m. Smoke Detector Activation – North Hall
4:58 p.m. Larceny – Green Waste
11:13 p.m. Medical Emergency – Residence Hall
11:33 p.m. Criminal Mischief – Dunham Residence Hall
11:43 p.m. Noise Complaint – Babbitt Residence Hall

Saturday, November 8, 2014

12:33 a.m. Unlawful Possession of Marijuana – Dunham
12:40 a.m. Hazardous Condition – Martin's Way Bridge
1:07 a.m. Medical Emergency – Events Barn
1:15 a.m. Medical Emergency – Events Barn
2:04 a.m. Disorderly Conduct – Jitney
7:03 a.m. Fire Alarm – Tolles Pavilion
11:16 a.m. Smoke Detector Activation – Milbank Hall
12:12 p.m. Smoke Detector Activation – Griffin Road
5:12 p.m. Marijuana Complaint – Dunham Residence Hall
6:43 p.m. Criminal Mischief – Bundy East

Sunday, November 9, 2014

12:05 a.m. Noise Complaint – Eells House
12:24 a.m. Criminal Mischief – Dunham Residence Hall
12:49 a.m. Marijuana Complaint – Bundy East
2:04 a.m. Trouble Alarm Activation – ABC House
4:27 a.m. Criminal Mischief – Tolles Pavillion
4:32 a.m. Hazardous Condition – Sadove Student Center

Setbacks should not prevent environmental efforts

Currently, Hamilton College is a participant in the NY6 regional competition of the Campus Conservation Nations. Despite our strong showing in previous years, as reported in *The Spectator*'s front page story, we are off to a slow start. Members of HEAG point out that there are likely several reasons for this including the timing of competition and the systemic problems of how Hamilton heats its buildings. While it may be true that these roadblocks keep us from being as competitive as we have been in past years, they do not represent valid excuses for individual environmental apathy.

Yes, it's true: Hamilton College and its students have been leaders when it comes to making our campus greener. Whether it is through initiatives like Physical Plant's efforts to implement policies that ensure new campus buildings meet LEED design standards, the College's pledge to follow the principles of the American College and University Climate Commitment, the establishment of the College Arboretum or even through HEAG's movement to "Cut the Cups," we have always striving for a more environmentally friendly campus.

In this week's story on the Campus Conservation Nationals competition, President of HEAG Risa Nagel '16 explained, "Hamilton's issues [in this year's competition] do not revolve around individual choices that people are making." This may be true, but in the spirit of the competition, we should redouble our individual efforts to be environmentally conscious. While we may not be able to make a difference in this particular contest, collectively we can promote a green culture on campus by doing things like recycling, taking shorter showers, turning the lights off, choosing to avoid paper cups and plastic water bottles along with other relevant ways of restricting carbon emission usage.

On a similar and somewhat related note, sometimes even environmental setbacks can be instructive. This past week, the dishwasher broke in Commons and to the horror of many environmentalists, the kitchen staff was forced to provide paper plates, cups and plastic utensils. Yes, this certainly was not a good situation from an environmental standpoint, but there is no question that the predicament provoked quite a reaction to the astonishing number of paper products being used. People were talking about how bad it was for the environment. The mountainous stack of cups alarmed students. The unfortunate quandary could have a silver lining because it forced people, whether they liked it or not, to face the issue of the use of paper cups head on. It sparked conversations, outrage and hopefully change.

The Spectator editorial represents the opinions of the majority of the editorial board. It is not necessarily unanimously agreed upon.

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The Spectator's Letter to the Editor section is designed to be a forum for the entire Hamilton community to discuss and debate campus, local, national and global issues. Pieces published in the section express the opinion of the individual writers and are not necessarily the opinions of *The Spectator*, its editors or the Media Board.

Letters to the Editor are welcome from all students, alumni/ae, faculty, friends of the college and Hamilton community members.

The Spectator has the following policies for submission:

1. Submissions are due by 10:00 p.m. on the Monday before publication. The editors reserve the right to refuse any late submissions.
2. Letters should be no longer than 500 words. The editors reserve the right to cut off letters at 500 words.
3. Letters submitted anonymously will not be printed.
4. The Spectator reserves the right not to publish any letter it deems inappropriate for publication.
5. If a piece is determined to be libelous, an unwarranted invasion of privacy, or an unnecessary and/or unwarranted ad hominem or personal attack, it will not be published.

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Please Recycle Your Copy of *The Spectator*

Celebrating our 166th year in print. First published as The Radiator *in 1848.*

Bias response team must increase transparency

by Jake Blount '17
Opinion contributor

Around 11 p.m. on Thursday, Sept. 25, my friend and I were walking down the Hill to his dorm room. We had enjoyed a lovely night in the Filius Events Barn seeing Shakey Graves, and were chatting about his music as my friend fiddled with his bike. We had just passed Couper Hall when a vehicle turned toward us off of campus road. It drove up the hill toward us, a bright LED flashlight flickering on in the passenger seat as it neared us. The flashlight worked as intended, dazzling our eyes and keeping us from identifying the vehicle's occupants. The car slowed to a crawl as we passed. Then a voice called, "Hey, nigger boy!"

There was no context surrounding the man's words, and no context could possibly excuse them. The car slowly regained speed and continued up the hill. My friend and I stared after it without speaking, still too blind from the flashlight's glare to see the license plate number. He slowly turned to me. Anger had narrowed his eyes and tightened his jaw "He didn't just say what I think he said?"

The following night, after filing an online Bias Incident Report and speaking with two members of the Bias Incident Response Team, we found ourselves across the desk from Director of Campus Safety Francis A. Manfredo.

The interview was a harrowing experience; giving voice to such memories is never easy, but Manfredo further complicated things with his attitude toward the incident. Though he was sympathetic and professional though he was, the conversation turned to why the vehicle could not have been from the College itself—why it must have been an outsider. To me there is absolutely no logic behind that assumption.

First, I can vividly recall any number of instances in which racist slurs have been hurled in my direction. Never before has anyone who does not know me thought to call me a nigger. Though the word does apply to me, I do not look the part. Only one who knows me, my family and how I identify myself would know to direct that epithet at me. Second, the two of us were under a streetlamp, and, therefore, clearly visible at the time. I believe that the man shining a flashlight at us did so to hide his face to avoid being identified and punished: hardly a concern for a total stranger. Third, we found several silver, 2006 Scion XBs collectively in the Campus Safety registry and on our search of the parking lots with Manfredo and one of his coworkers. Any of them could have been a possibility, but none of them—to my knowledge—were ever investigated.

On the following Wednesday, Oct. 1, I received a call from Manfredo, notifying me that a car matching our description was found down the Hill, that the matter had been turned over to the Kirkland Police Department and that I would be notified of further steps. No picture of the vehicle in question was ever sent to my friend or me to be verified, and the Kirkland PD never sought any contact with us.

Forty-two days later, I have heard absolutely nothing.

I have expressed my severe vexation with the College's responses (or lack thereof) to the concerns of minority students repeatedly, loudly and publicly. I often find my audience puzzled as to the source of my anger, and this incident epitomizes it: that discrimination is allowed to exist at Hamilton, that denial is more rampant still and that no concrete action is taken to rectify the situation.

Take, for example, the recently convened Campus Inclusion Task Force. While it certainly sounds like a noble initiative, it exists in an impenetrable fog of unanswered questions. I know two things about it: who is on it (with the exception of the students) and that they asked me to complete a survey. I can think of a few more things I would like to know: what do they do during meetings? Are their meetings open to the public? If so, when and where do they meet? Do they have a purpose or mission? Do they have a set of concrete goals? If so, by what means will they be accomplished?

I asked these questions of a member of the Task Force. She didn't have an answer for any of them.

Last year, students from the Movement, an anonymous on-campus activist group, published a list of specific measures that they believed would make the College a more welcoming and accessible place for minority students. These requests were panned by the College community and were deemed unworthy even of consideration by the administration. We, the students, were ignored. The venom on Hamilton Secrets and Yik Yak grew in quantity and intensity, without any concrete opposition on the part of the administration. To this day, despite repeated requests from students, the administration has not even attempted to ban either service from the campus—a step that many other educational institutions around the country have taken.

And, in the absence of real action, this Task Force with no actual task was created. Endless platitudes were spouted. The administration brought focus to discussions of outside issues like the murder of Mike Brown in order to avoid confronting the issues facing our own community. They sacrificed the safety and comfort of students of color on the Hamilton College campus in order to strengthen our delusions of security.

I have often heard my peers discuss the notion of a "Hamilton bubble," failing to realize that the system of safeguarding and shelter they refer to is not accessible to other students. I believe that the sense of powerlessness and distress that many students of color at Hamilton feel stems from the underlying culture on our campus, one which assumes a safe haven within the campus boundaries, and often prioritizes the survival of such illusions over the well-being of those who, like myself, have been forcibly disabused of them. Although many will seek to downplay or ignore what happened to me, I cannot emphasize this enough: in many situations, what happened to me falls under the legal definition of a hate crime.

I, and many other minority students, experience true safety at Hamilton only as a rare, ephemeral sensation, and certainly never as a concrete reality. Members of the campus "community" have subjected students like me, as individuals and as a group, to verbal, psychological and even physical assault several times since I arrived on this campus. Those of us who choose to voice our truths and articulate our real-life experiences of discrimination and micro-aggressions find ourselves publicly vilified, raked over the coals on social media and told that we are being overly sensitive and disrespectful of our peers. Minority students who choose—quite reasonably—not to subject themselves to such abuse are often blamed by faculty and administrators for Hamilton's lax approach to issues of inclusion; interestingly, many of those who work here believe it is our job, not theirs, to educate our peers.

It is my hope that the reader now understands the situation in which I, and so my others, find ourselves: a paradoxical state of affairs wherein we are both shamed into and shamed for speaking our truths. Where our peers and superiors feel entitled both to an education we can provide and to the false sense of security of which it would rob them, and where the very same individuals who make us feel unsafe are often portrayed as our victims. Our peers seem split between feelings of sympathy, apathy and antipathy. The administrative body as a whole, whatever the intentions of the persons within may be, has merely slipped sugar pills to the student population, obscuring the important issues in committees, teams and task-less task forces so that we cannot bring them to the fore.

At the end of the day, although minority students have fought for just treatment, we are just that: a minority. We cannot transform the dominant culture of Hamilton College on our own, try though we may. We need the help of our fellow Continentals to make the sea change we seek. The first step is easy: listen.

HAMILTON.EDU

Campus conversations about race, such as this one last fall, have caused tension, but they ask the right questions about our community.

Thumbs Up	Thumbs Down	Who Cares?
Seniors had to register for classes: and still couldn't get into Food for Thought. Screw this.	**Emergency Communications Test:** proof that, in an emergency, you'll find out six hours late when you finally check your email.	**Class on Veterans Day:** you complained about not getting to sleep in, meanwhile, there's a war going on.
Opus has mac and cheese: next week, buff barbecue fingers. Suck it, Diner.	**Hockey Date Night:** the first person to make a "down to puck" joke will be escorted off the premises.	**We're failing the energy conservation test:** and for the first time all semester, we seem to have forgotten about the giant, new building on campus.
Citrus Bowl on Saturday: in true bowl fashion, it better be packed tight.	**WHCL CD give away:** For anyone who likes Nickelback and *Now That's What I Call Music Vol. 47*	**Tech Town Hall:** the most technologically advanced department on campus utilized the most old-timey meeting format.

by Shea Crockett '15 and Wynn Van Dusen '15

Disclaimer: The opinions expressed in this column are purely of a satirical nature, and are not representative of the views of *The Spectator* editorial board.

THE SOAPBOX

After Ayotzinapa: What the Mexican protests mean

The Soapbox gives students the chance to express their viewpoint on a range of important issues on and off the Hill. Send your submissions to spec@hamilton.edu

by Cesar Renero '17
Opinion Editor

In Mexico, there have been waves of protests and citizen upheavals that it has not experienced in recent memory. The protests before the 2012 presidential elections pale in comparison to the current situation, and perhaps now more than ever it is critically important to be watchful of the development of this latest chapter in the country's history.

On Friday, Sept. 26, a single incident precipitated the narrative that has covered the front page of every major newspaper in Mexico. Students from a college in Ayotnizapa were going to a protest in the city of Iguala. Upon their arrival, the local police shot at the bus carrying the students, killing six, injuring dozens and abducting forty-three passengers. Their whereabouts remain unknown.

In Mexico, students' freedom of speech is an extremely sensitive and complicated matter. On Oct. 2, 1968, students protested the government of then president, Gustavo Díaz Ordaz, days before the start of the Olympic Games in Mexico City. Ordaz, who belonged to the same political party as the current president of Mexico (the long-ruling PRI), responded with deadly military force, and due to the subsequent government and media cover-up, the fate of many of the students remains uncertain to this day. NGOs and scholars estimate that between 1,000 and 5,000 students were summarily killed, with hundreds more injured.

The Mexican people are fed up. Latin American governments throughout the 20th century have a terrible history regarding disappeared persons. Primarily, it was US-backed dictatorships that undertook state terrorism and removed from public existence thousands of people, with Pinochet's Chile and Videla's Argentina as prime examples. However, it now seems that what used to be a past agony—for parents to not even have a body to bury their children—is back to haunt Mexico.

The parents of the 43 disappeared students want their children back alive. "Los queremos vivos" (we want them alive) has become the unifying chant of the Mexican people to vociferate their deep disapproval of Peña Nieto's current administration. Calls for him to resign have started, and this is what is so critical about the situation in Mexico. As journalist Jorge Ramos articulated in an open letter earlier this week, Mexican presidents simply do not resign. Constitutionally, it is a difficult maneuver requiring the consent of Congress, and there is no precedent of a president quitting his job for the past 80 years. But it seems a growing number of people want to change that. It is not just the lack of popular power to remove corrupt and inept politicians that infuriates Mexicans; they want to overhaul the political culture in the country.

The actions of the Iguala police are cold, unquestionable proof that the government and drug cartels are colluding. The Mexican government's response has been paltry; it took President Peña Nieto weeks to give a public announcement and over a month to finally meet the parents of the students. If Obama took such a lethargic and delayed approach, he would be shunned by all sides. Such is the state of Mexico's broken political culture.

However, this week the protests have taken a far more revolutionary tone. The PRI's local offices in Guerrero (the state that Ayotzinapa and Iguala are in) have been torched, along with a myriad array of other government offices. In Mexico City, a bus stop was also hit by arsonist fire, along with a bus that was partially occupied by passengers the moment it was set afire. Thankfully, no one has been hurt so far, but they demonstrate the increasingly anarchic actions people are undertaking out of desperation more than anything.

Perhaps at the heart of the aftermath of the students' abduction is the Mexican people's deep feeling of powerlessness. Peaceful, vocal protests have characterized Mexico's political climate for the past 20 years, yet there has been little change on the part of the government's attitude towards its citizens. Yes, the economy has improved, jobs have been created, the pollution that once ravaged Mexico City is now under control and a gamut of other small changes have happened that reflect Mexico's continued development and growth but the police remain corrupt and untrustworthy, cartels still rule from their large drug plantations and politicians remain above the power of the common people.

Many analysts in Mexico believe this latest wave of protests may lead to something bigger. Mexico had transformative wars in 1810 (the independence) and 1910 (the revolution), but in 2010, Mexico had already been fighting the drug war for years, and now in 2014, it seems little has changed. I hope Mexico does not descend into a full-blown war, but a true reforming movement is long overdue. After having a part in the student protests in 2012, I am convinced that the only way for Mexicans to regain their freedom, rights and security is to take to the streets and pressure the government in increasing steps. These protests have shown that Mexicans are shedding the opiate effects of cowardice, apathy and lethargy, and are starting to take reins of the situation. Calls from the protests have generally carried an apolitical air, if not supra-political, with all parties being shunned in favor of a direct democratic approach.

I believe that now is the time to begin seriously analyzing this situation. The geopolitical implications of the protests may be present on the border over the coming weeks, and an unstable Mexico will have profound implications for the US. Mexico is the US's second biggest trading partner, with over 600 billion dollars' worth of trade between the two countries. Mexico is also the biggest contributor to ancestry in the United States and the largest American expatriate community is Mexico, with around two million American citizens residing in their southern neighbor. With so many links to Mexico, it is dumbfounding to me that we do not spend more time talking about the subject. Perhaps we should, because not only will we learn more about the struggles of development, but because the fate of Mexico will impact the US economically, socially and culturally.

Cesar expects to major in something resembling World Politics but is still unsure. He is also a staff writer for The Duel Observer *and is the Treasurer-Toastmaster of the Hamilton Fine Dining Society. He enjoys film-making, writing and playing chess.*

Mass protests in Mexico, like the one above, resulted in violent responses from the government and raised free speech issues.

We want YOU

...to write for *The Spectator*!

Email spec@hamilton.edu to find out how.

From Where I Sit:

Hamilton's International Perspectives

by Suxian Lin '18
Features Contributor

COURTESY OF SUXIAN LIN '18

When I first landed my feet on this foreign country, I knew I would face challenges. As my fears escalated, I looked for ways to avoid these challenges, so I would avoid problems and embarrassments. At times when I had to face the task that I was reluctant to do, I just simply gave up, then moved on. But after a significant incident in seventh grade, I realized I would never move forward if I cannot challenge myself.

My teacher signed me up for an in class ESL reading contest. Despite having practiced numerous times beforehand, my spoken English was still a work in progress. When my turn came, I stood in front of the whole class, alone, with a churning feeling in my stomach. I was afraid that my classmates would laugh at my strong Chinese accent, that I would pronounce the words wrong and that something, anything might go wrong. The feeling instantaneously seized my entire body, and my legs began to tremble. I was horrified, and my head was swelling. I tried to open my mouth, but all that came out was a squeaky sob that immediately triggered in tears. I hastily ran out the classroom in shame. I swore I would never do public speaking and make a fool of myself.

Four years later, I found public speaking skill to be a necessary skill for success, but I could not speak a word in front of crowd. I realized that public speaking is the challenge I must overcome. So I volunteered to make a speech in front of the crowd. I found myself in front people again, this time I stood on a big stage, as a speaker giving an icebreaker speech at New York City's Toastmaster's Club ceremony. However, once on the stage, I felt a great uneasiness being the center of attention. I could feel my cheeks getting hot and my palms starting to sweat. I was waiting for the host to finish his introduction. However, I could barely hear anything because my heart was beating like a fist banging on a locked door. What if the audience could not understand me? I could already picture myself walking down the stage with embarrassment and humiliation. Finally, the moment came and my name was called. While approaching the center of the stage, I took a nervous glance at the audience. They seemed to expect a lot from me; my mind immediately went blank.

Suddenly, I felt like as if I was watching myself from a distance. I saw my face was flushing, and I was breathing rapidly and trying to calm myself down. I thought, "I am a coward." I was too afraid of making mistakes. I was too afraid people would judge me negatively, just like when I was in the seventh grade. I gradually moved my eyes to the index cards in my hand. I realized the words were already stuck in my head. I had rehearsed my speech many times in front of the mirror, and I was well prepared. I remembered myself smiling and looking confident in the reflection. At that moment, I felt this was the time I could fully express myself in English and overcome my fears. I took a deep breath and my body began to calm down. I began, "Good morning, ladies and gentlemen..." My voice was shaky, but once I opened my mouth, the words flew easily. Suddenly, I felt I was accomplishing something with every line that I delivered. While in seventh grade, I cried and ran away from the challenge, and four years later, I made a speech in front of crowd of people. I realized I do have the ability to handle the challenge. I have to stand against the fear.

"Thank you," I ended with a confident smile. A huge round of applause broke out as I slowly walked down the platform. I knew the Chinese-American language barrier was my scariest challenge, and once I took the necessary step to overcome that fear, the experience shaped me and prepared me for even bigger challenge ahead. Here I am, a college student in Hamilton College.

***"From Where I Sit"** is a column dedicated to the international voices of Hamilton's campus. If you are an international student and are interested in contributing a column, contact Sarah Rahman (srahman@hamilton.edu).*

Sex and the Campus

by Kate Cieplicki '16
Features Columnist

This column covers both silly and serious topics about sex and dating from the perspective of a poetry-loving, feminist psychology major. For topic suggestions, questions or other perspectives on sex in college, please email kcieplic@hamilton edu.

If you can't eat that burrito around him, maybe you shouldn't sleep with him.

I have a confession: the night before my first date ever I Google-searched the phrase, "What to eat on a first date." The never-failing Yahoo Answers advised a quesadilla ("Delicate but still fun!") which I ordered the next day at the local Chili's. In the years that followed, the requirement to eat "delicate" food on dates stuck with me. I ordered ziti (but never spaghetti), burrito bowls (but never burritos) and french fries (but never veggie burgers). Ah, I was so young. Having been in a serious relationship for almost two years, I cringe at the days when I used to care about what I ate in front of men.

I know what you're thinking, since I'm already dating a guy, I don't have to worry as much about impressing him with my sophisticated food choices. That may be true to some extent, but I know girls both single and in relationships who care about what and how much they eat in front of their partners. This is troubling to me because, the way I see it, the way we eat with our partners has a lot to do with how we have sex.

PINTEREST.COM

If I can't eat an "embarrassing" food in front of my partner, how can I expect myself to be comfortable and honest during our sexual experiences? If I can't laugh about eating a particularly long strand of spaghetti with him, what happens when I almost fall off the bed while changing positions, when my stomach grumbles or when something in the relationship is bothering me and I need to talk about it? Restricting what I eat around my partner would put up walls and stunt the growth of our relationship.

Openness can be incorporated into various interactions with a potential sexual partner, but meal-time is a natural time to experiment with this authenticity. I'm not saying you have to order the largest burrito at Moe's right away or eat anything you're uncomfortable with. If you don't have a naturally big appetite, don't order a lot of food (and wow, I envy you). The key here is autonomy...not acting like sophomore-year-of-high-school-me and ordering foods you think men will find alluring and attractive. Eat whatever the hell you want!

While pursuing the web today for "best date foods," several articles, targeted at girls, encouraged girls to order burgers and steaks so as not to seem "high maintenance" or like they were "those calorie counting girls." That mindset is just as bad and not what I'm advocating for. I am merely saying eat what you are comfortable with when you're with a potential sexual partner because if you can't eat a burrito in front of someone, how are you going to tell that person what you want (and don't want) during sex? Of course, it's natural to not want to be too full for sexy time, but if I'm hungry during a date, I am going to eat. If I eat something particularly heavy in garlic or spinach, that's ok, a quick trip to the bathroom or piece of gum totally prevents unpleasantness. Gone are the days of caring what I eat in front of men. The more I think about it, the more I realize that I wouldn't want to date a guy who was opposed to girls eating certain things anyway (can you say, 'red flag'?).

Being comfortable with eating around your partner has an added perk: it can open an avenue to use food to spice things up during sex. One caveat: literal spices may not be the best idea. I read a terrifying article once about a guy who made a spicy dinner for his girlfriend and accidentally burned her "down there" with spices while getting it on... yikes! Other foods, however, can certainly contribute to time in the bedroom. I would advise syrups or whipped cream. With whipped cream less tends to be better. Focus on fun areas of the body (use your imagination) but only use small dabs. Whipped cream is more filling than you think and gorging on the stuff is not a sexy feeling. I advise keeping baby wipes nearby for when the food play no longer becomes fun: it makes for an easy clean-up and the smallest interruption possible.

Food should not be kept separate from sexual intimacy, but rather should be celebrated as another way to be intimate with a partner. The comfort that comes from knowing you can eat whatever you want around a partner and still be accepted makes sex more comfortable and may even encourage you to incorporate food into sex.

Send feedback, comments, and questions to kcieplic or spec@hamilton.edu.

Senior Reflection

Personal Perception

by William Schink '15
Features Contributor

PHOTO COURTESY OF WILLIAM SCHINK '15

I'm having a fight with Hamilton right now. Not one that is physical, legal or financial, but an emotional one. Hamilton, I am tired of you.

I see a friend of mine's posts on Facebook about what is currently going on at Syracuse, and I can recognize how lucky I am to be here compared to there. But that's not an excuse.

I could make this a reflection about my current complaints about Hamilton when it comes to dining options for people with dietary restrictions, the ways in which the student government and its relationship to the administration fail the student body at large, my disparagement at the dismembering of my major (for matters of "curricular merit") or how the Hamilton I applied to is no longer the Hamilton I am attending. The list goes on and on, but this is a senior reflection, and it is my duty as the author to pass on to you what I have learned at my time here at Hamilton and what my biggest takeaway is.

We love to talk about personal fulfillment and definement without truly understanding what that is (ironic as the motto of the College is "Know Thyself"). There is much talk and very little doing in terms of this motto in regard to defining our personality, individuality and our belief set, really key things that a liberal arts college should be about (Exceptions including introductory theater classes and the oft-repeated phrase of Professor Mark Cryer when he says to "make a choice").

Hamilton is not the real world. While everyone says "hi," it's still a very cliquey college (possibly even more so in the past few years) in that people do have their groups and circles, and tend to stay within them, or at most only venture five or six feet outside (with a few exceptions, there will always be that incredibly charismatic person that most people adore).

There is a desire to fit in at Hamilton, to belong and of belonging, and so we create friend groups our first year, and those groups grow a bit and shift throughout the year. During sophomore year, these shrink a little bit, maybe you shift more into one circle than you do another. In your junior year you fall out of a friend circle or two, maybe more so if you go abroad (I didn't, thank you very much, I had a lovely experience with a longtime family friend who very graciously took me along with his daughter and a student of his one of the summers before Hamilton. You shouldn't judge people who don't or can't go abroad, how dare you, if you don't judge people on that criteria though, good job).

Senior year is different for everyone. I know my friend group is smaller than ever, some people whom I used to call close friends pretty much never even contact me anymore. But you can't let that bother you. Key to knowing yourself and becoming a "Working Adult Trying to Enter the Realworld" (or W.A.T.E.R.) is not letting your friends define you. You need to learn that it is not Hamilton that defines you, not your leadership roles in clubs or social organizations, not the people who rally against you, not your curly hair, not your depression, not your grades and not your family. Do not define yourself in terms of a Hamilton Student, at most you are a person attending Hamilton. Understand yourself in your own eyes, you are not one thing or have a single experience that makes up who and what you are. You are many places, many people and many thoughts and to let someone try and take that away from you or to dictate your identity for you is tantamount (for me at least) to being spiritually lobotomized.

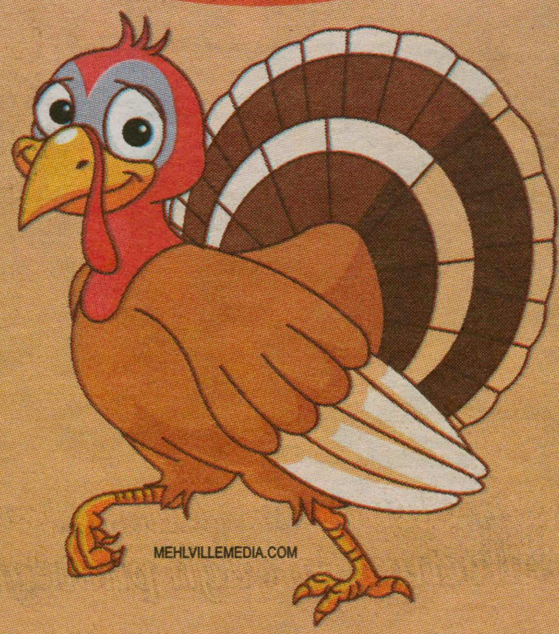
Take advantage of your experience at Hamilton because this college has resources, people, professors and facilities to help you grow if you want to use them. Don't let the atmosphere, the opinions or people use you. Take this as a time to outline yourself, and be the final draft of the person you want to be in this endless redrafting cycle of your life. That might sound very mushy, so feel free to write in a metaphor using cephalopods or crustaceans or a sea shanty.

Thanksgiving Fun Facts

The first Thanksgiving meal consisted of lobster, rabbit, chicken, fish, squashes, beans, chestnuts, hickory nuts, onions, leeks, dried fruits, maple syrup and honey, radishes, cabbage, carrots, eggs and goat cheese.

Turkeys can have heart attacks, as evidenced when the United States Air Force was doing test runs and breaking the sound barrier, and nearby turkeys dropped dead.

Benjamin Franklin wanted the turkey to be the national bird of the United States because compared to the eagle it was "a much more respectable bird, and withal a true original native of America."



MEHLVILLEMEDIA.COM

Sarah Josepha Hale, an American magazine editor, persuaded Abraham Lincoln to declare Thanskgiving a national holiday. She is also the author of the popular nursery rhyme "Mary Had a Little Lamb."

Since 1947, the National Turkey Federation has presented a live turkey and two dressed turkeys to the President. The President does not eat the live turkey. Instead he "pardons" it and allows it to live out its days on a historical farm.

The heaviest turkey ever raised was 86 pounds, about the size of a large dog. The average weight of a turkey purchased at Thanksgiving is 15 pounds.

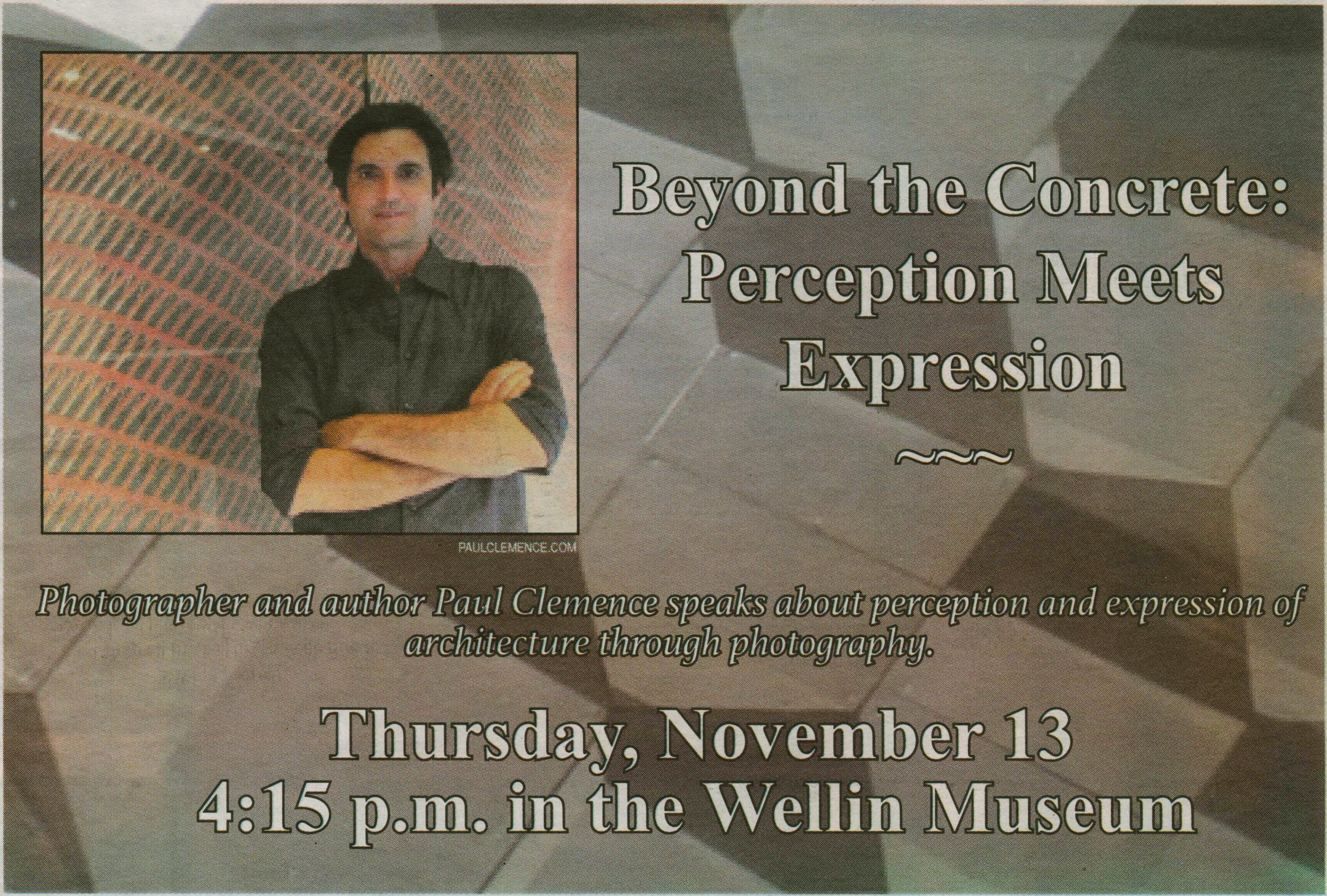
Facts Taken From WHSV.com

Dream Play begins a new era of Hamilton College productions in Kennedy Center

by Zachary Oscar '18
Arts & Entertainment Contributor

For the first Hamilton College Theatre Production of the academic year, Professor Carole Bellini-Sharp directed *A Dream Play*, originally written by August Strindberg and now adapted by Caryl Churchill. Written as a precursor to early 1900s dramatic movements, the play focuses on a series of events surrounding a young woman who comes from another world to experience what life is like, and if it is really as difficult as human beings make it out to be. The surrealist elements of the play take shape in the form of a dream that the main character Agnes, a daughter of the Vedic god Indra, is constantly trying to interpret and even live. She meets a plethora of characters who have a myriad of experiences before her eyes such as sadness, torment, happiness and death. Throughout the play, there's some door that no one ever seems to open and that all the characters fear to open on account of "the good and the great." The door is meant to hold the secret of life inside of it, but, of course, there's nothing inside. At the conclusion of the play, an author and Agnes ascend from the material world (or perhaps a dream; it is unclear) and join the gods above. The play as it stands in written form is especially difficult to grasp, and it requires a significant understanding of philosophical thought that was spewing in the early 1900s. Strindberg wrote that his play "sought to imitate the disconnected but apparently logical form of a dream. Anything can happen, everything is possible and plausible. Time and space do not exist". This is where the only problem with the play comes in. "Anything can happen" was readily apparent, as throughout the production I watched the characters on the stage take on multiple personas, come on and off stage in gorilla or pig masks, and even a quarantine officer dance to the "Monster Mash." I almost reevaluated my belief that the play is absurdist, rather than surrealist. It stood out to me as an odd choice by which to christen the new theater space. It is relatively inaccessible for a typical audience, and cackles would come occasionally from the elderly folk in the rows behind me while I tried to comprehend exactly what was taking place. That was another problem I personally faced; as a casual theater-goer, I tried to hard to find a plot in the show when in fact there isn't one. The performance featured some contemporary music as well, which took me away from what was happening on stage and caused me to focus on what I was hearing. However, essentially all the issues I had with the production were based, as I said before, on the writing of the show itself. Even as someone who doesn't have that great a grasp on the creation of the play, its roots or the intricacies of the writing, it was easy to see that the set created for the play was exceptionally well done, and its cast was very powerful. It was clear that when each actor was on stage, he or she was focused on enveloping him or herself in the dream and ultimately helping move Agnes along her journey to discover what the human condition really is. It is also important to note that each actor essentially played more than one character, and one person consistently played no character. Despite this, I thoroughly enjoyed watching the actors, no matter what role they were playing. The new Romano Theatre felt well used, and the multi-purpose set came to life. Through the combination of Bellini-Sharp's directing choices and the performance of her actors, the play became accessible by its end as a comment on reality, the meaning of life and the world of dreams.

The production is the first to be staged in the Kennedy Center, as opposed to Minor Theatre.



Nate Taylor '11 captivates Chapel

by Alex Witonsky '17
Arts & Entertainment Contributor

Last Sunday, Nate Taylor '11 performed a set of folk music in the Chapel. Sitting at the front of the altar, Taylor smiled as the last chords of the title cut rung out.

Expressing joy and nerves, he thanked the friends and family that turned out for the show. Among them was a contingency of the a capellaDuelly Noted, gathered in the pews closest to the front. They applauded Taylor warmly after each song. Before the show began, Taylor's brother Jacob '14 practiced a song with him and helped him tune. He made another appearance halfway through the show, lending vocals to a song called "Father," which extols and questions the tendency of families to drift apart. Taylor's own father was also in attendance, sitting close to the front, and smiling whenever Taylor began to speak.

Taylor recently completed a six-month tour of the U.S. His travels across the country bled through his original songs and covers; the lyrics are characteristic of wanderlust and night-time pondering. The first song, "Promise Me," rejects love and celebrates heartache and unkept promises. With the third fret capo'd, he softly fingerpicked, briefly crescendoing into a half-chorus. The theme was reversed in his next song, "All Along," in which Taylor celebrates the potential for joy and the reality of romance. In his song "In Dreams," Taylor's hopes for romance fade in and out of focus and possibility. "The Graveyard" laments temporality, expressing the sadness of men who die with unfinished work.

The lyrics are childlike, but not childish. The musings are simple, but profound, asking questions like: Why isn't love easy? What will I do before I die? Why do families grow apart? In effect, these questions situated the listener somewhere at the intersection of dreaming and waking, adolescence and adulthood. The confusion Taylor evoked seemed to be intentional; some of the songs seem to question whether maturation robs us of innocent imaginings.

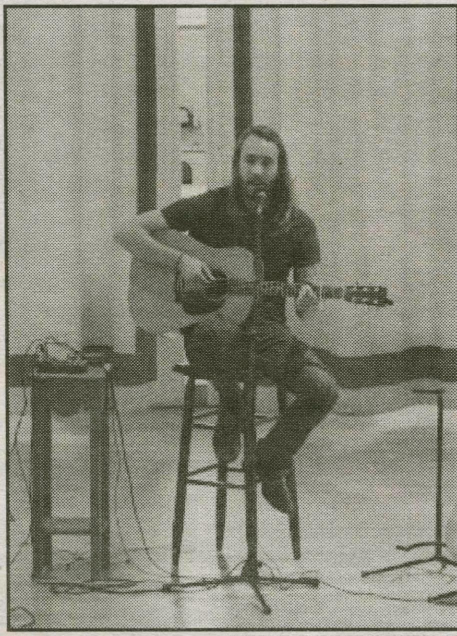


PHOTO BY ELIZABETH COMATOS '17

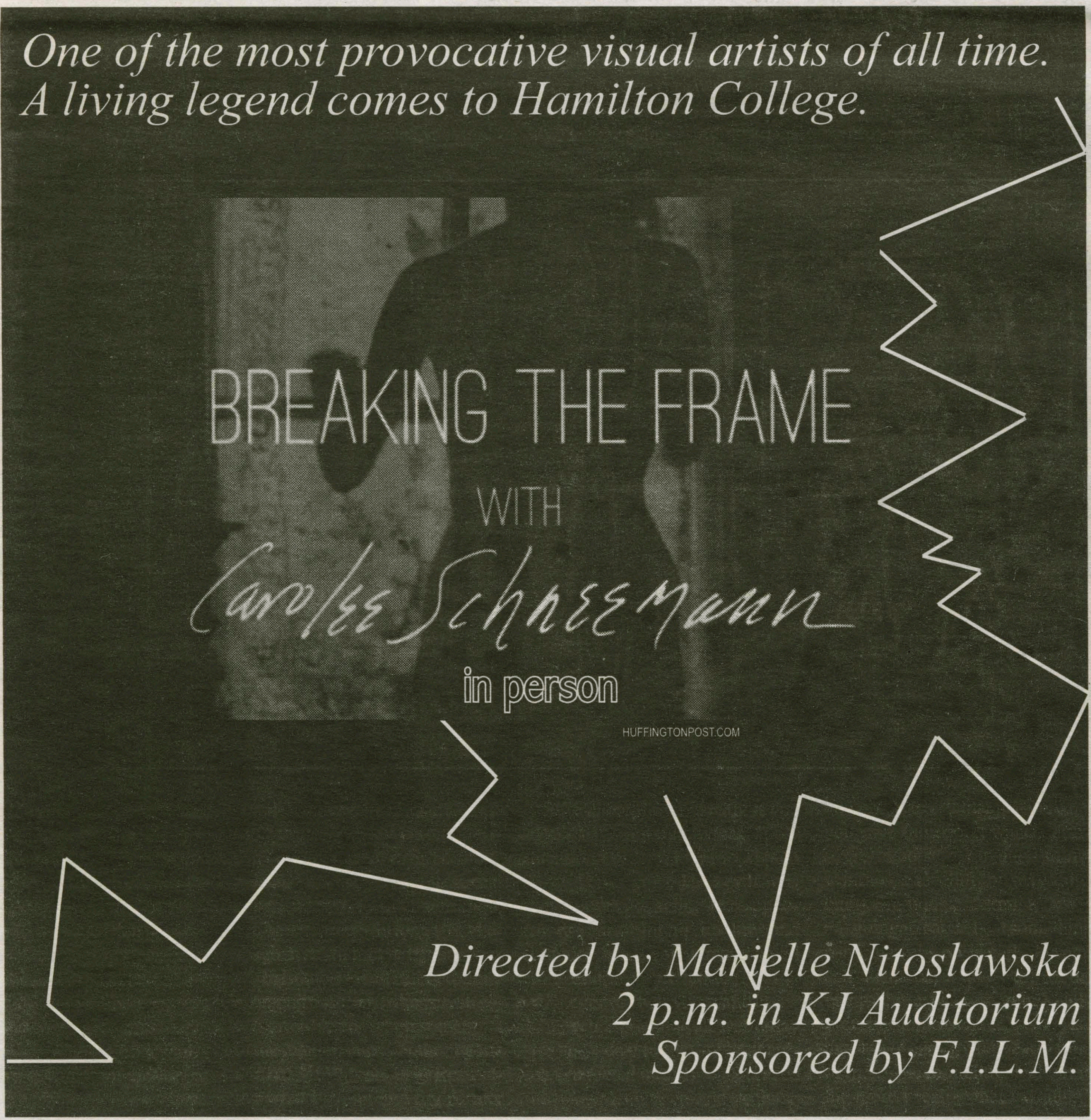
Nate Taylor performed songs from his new album *In Dreams*

Whether with friends or alone, a summer evening would be better suited to these songs than a chilly autumn night. These are songs for dark beaches slipping under the sea, for the high, warm winds that seem to weave through a tapestry of stars, for the glow of a face radiantly seen in firelight but perceived in intoxication. These are not songs for the indoor warmth of a November evening. Nor does the setting of the Chapel seem entirely appropriate. The religious conno-tation is a bit off, people sat too straight in the pews and the lighting was unnatural. Taylor neither preached nor condescended in order to change our convictions; instead, he affirmed our flaws and doubts.

That is not to say that these are simple campfire songs. Taylor was able to jump between a number of tunings and picks skillfully. His voice was rounded, loud and confident.

The show was also a celebration. Taylor recently released a five-song album, entitled *In Dreams*. In between songs, he traded humorous anecdotes with the audience. At one point, his father interjected, prompting Taylor to recall a family vacation gone awry. When the music was over, Taylor invited everyone in the audience to a celebratory pizza dinner.

Nate Taylor has a powerful voice and plays the guitar with a confident ease. You can check out his music at www.ntaylormusic.com



WHCL 88.7FM

Show Profile:

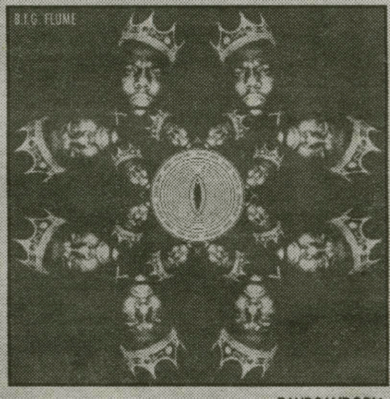
The Link

Mondays at 12a.m.

with...

Taylor Brandin '15 and Allie Kerper '15

The Link is an association game! One DJ plays a song, and then the other DJ plays a song that the previous one reminds her of. The "link" could be made between lyrics, between music, between themes, etc. Anything goes! See if you can guess what it is before the other DJ does!



BANDCAMP.COM

Typical Playlist:

"Julia" - SZA

"Insane" - Flume

"Hidden in the Night" - Wild Club

"Cardiac Arrest" - Bad Suns

"F for You" - Disclosure

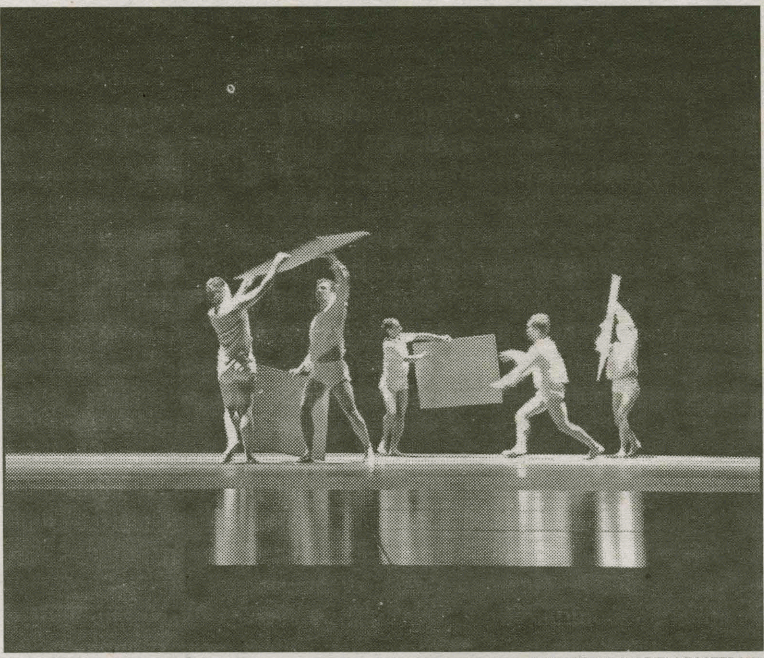
Brian Brooks Moving Company provides a varied dance experience

by Lauren Pyo '17
Arts & Entertainment Contributor

On Saturday, Nov. 8 at 7:30 pm, the Brian Brooks Moving Company performed in Wellin Hall. The Company was brought to Hamilton through the Mohawk Valley Dance Partnership. The performance consisted of five dances, all choreographed by Brian Brook, and two of the five were performed by Brooks himself. All the dances utilized unique styles and each performance stressed how the dances, costumes, lightings, props and music came together to form a compelling experience.

The first half of the performance consisted of three dances. Brian Brooks began the night with a spunky and fast-paced solo called "I'm Going to Explode." The dance company then performed "Division," which consisted of many patterned movements with props. The number "Descent" ended the first half of the show with a more mysterious, mystical tone. Brian Brooks also began the second half of the performance, this time performing in a high-energy duet called "Motor." The final performance of the night was a dance called "Torrent," which comprised a more lyrical style compared to the other, and more fast-paced dances.

The choreography for each dance had a clean and sharp rhythmic pattern in which each movement flowed nicely into the next. This style was clearly seen in the "Descent" number, which started with the dancers entering the stage in pairs. One dancer walked across the stage with his partner lying down sideways on his back. Slowly, other dancers started entering the stage in the same way. When each pair walked toward a certain point on stage, they put their partner down, switched to the side the partner was lying on and walked back. This pattern occurred continuously, creating almost hypnotic imagery. In the middle of this number, this arrangement stopped, and a dancer came out from the side of the stage fanning tulle in the air. The tulle formed different shapes as it drifted beautifully in the air. Then, other dancers came out in sequence with different colored tulle following the same movements.



PHOTOS BY GABRIELA FOSTER '18

In the "Division" dance, the costumes were identical and the dancers used boards to create patterns.

The costuming was very simple. The dancers were not clad identically for every number, but their costumes were coordinated and not clashing. The coordination or difference in costumes was contingent upon the different styles in each dance. In "Division," the costumes were uniform, creating a homogeneous crowd. The costumes were sensibly matched, for the dance itself consisted of systematic patterns in the movements the dancer made with the boards they used as props. The duplicate costumes gave the number a clean-cut look, matching the style of the movements in the dance.

The lighting and music also aligned with the style of the dances. For "Torrent," the lighting was dim and classical orchestra music played fitting given the lightness and grace of the dancers' movements. For "Motor" and "I'm Going to Explode," the upbeat music matched the dancers' buoyant mood. The foggy effect of the light in "Descent." which shined from all different angles, enhanced the otherworldly tone of the dance.

The Brian Brooks Moving Company staged an unforgettable performance for the Hamilton community. Marked by a differentiation in the styles employed by the dancers, the performers could truly exhibit the range of their immense talent. Brian Brooks's choreography is wonderfully distinctive, making the show as a whole a striking experience.

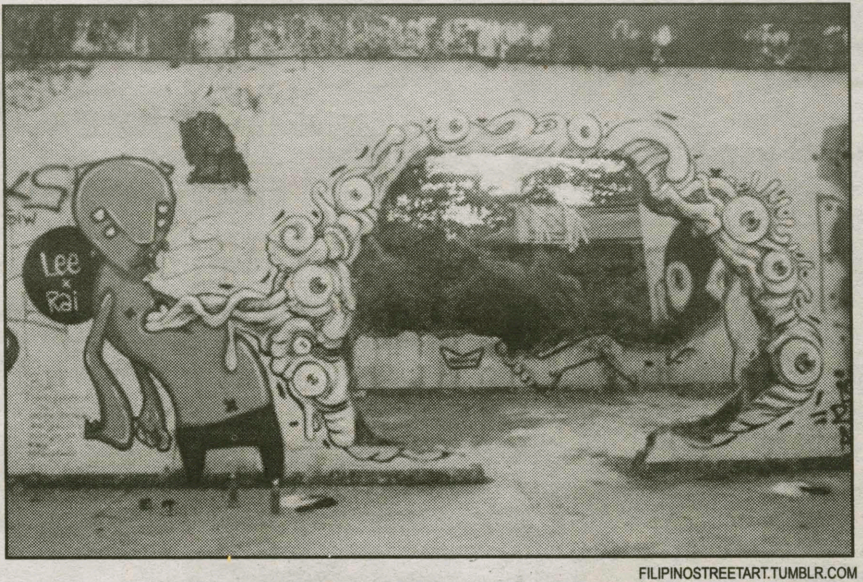
Filipino Street Art Project demonstrates the power of graffiti as a medium

by Brian Burns '17
Arts & Entertainment Editor

Wednesday night, Nov. 12, filmmakers Kim Dryden and Austin Smith visited Hamilton to present the Filipino Street Art Project, a transmedia project they have been collaborating on since 2012. Both graduates of Wake Forest University, Dryden grew up outside of Syracuse, while Smith was raised in the Filipino community outside San Francisco. The two fostered an interest in filmmaking; for Dryden went to graduate school for documentary filmmaking as Smith worked in Hollywood for a year. When Smith mentioned his distaste for working in Hollywood, Dryden explained, "documentaries are more fun anyways."

The two had visited the Philippines before, and were surprised by the fact that it is frequently overlooked by the mainstream American media. The country has the fastest growing economy in Asia in addition to being #1 in the Corruption Perception Index. Street art in the country emphasizes what Smith calls the clash between the "strong economy and the lousy government." The street art is thereby defined by rejection of the use of public spaces.

The artists involved in the Filipino street art scene are from all walks of life, but all represent through their art what it means to live in Manila. Brian Borrios, one of the film's featured artists, could have gone to art school, but decided to continue to live in poverty and to make art for the public. Lee Salvador is an artist who creates characters that reflect his struggles, including his paternal abandonment when he was young. He has painted his home and even his office building to remind him of the pain of his past, such as when he joined a street gang in his youth. Dee Jae Paeste represents more of the "higher-brow" class of Filipino street art according to Smith. He gets paid to travel from island to island creating art. Like Smith he grew up in the San Francisco Bay Area, but stayed in the Philippines to support the growing art class.



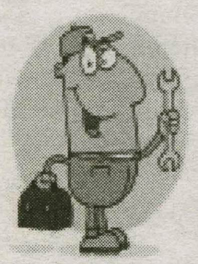
FILIPINOSTREETART.TUMBLR.COM

This piece represents the anxieties of artist Lee Salvador in the form of an alien creature.

Smith and Dryden filmed principal photography in the Philippines from Oct. 2013 to March 2014, living with the artists the whole time. Dryden was even invited to an artist's wedding before meeting him. Dryden and Smith funded the film through a fundraiser and Kickstarter, which Smith described as "nerve-wracking." They also ran several social media accounts, juggling Instagram, Facebook and Twitter. In discussing the challenges that came with creating the Filipino Street Art Project, Dryden discussed balancing work with social life.

The project is not merely a traditional documentary; it represents modern cross-platform storytelling. In addition to the forthcoming full-length documentary, the project involved an interactive website that features profiles and is organized by categories of art. The Filipino Street Art Project has also collaborated with the Google Cultural Institute, which Dryden considers her proudest accomplishment. Their work has been some of the first street art to be digitized. This is to "let people enter the story at different places, where they feel comfortable," said Smith. The documentary that forms the centerpiece of the Filipino Street Art Project, *Manileños*, will be released for free. According to Dryden, selling a film about a populous art form would be "hypocritical."

After the Filipino Street Art presented the trailer for *Manileños*, they introduced local street artist Able. Based out of Ithaca, the artist spent his youth travelling around upstate New York to create graffiti art. He is now involved in beautifying of his community, helping kids express themselves through street art. He continues to do graffiti art, specializing in cartoon characters and vivid colors.



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Senior Athlete of the Week: Anna Brown

by Tucker Hamlin '17
Sports Editor

Name: Anna Brown
Hometown: Colorado Springs, Colorado
Sport: Volleyball

Favorite Professional Athlete: Champ Bailey

How you got introduced to volleyball?
I started playing in 4th grade at an athletic camp and immediately loved it.

Favorite thing to do on campus besides your sport?

Alpine Ski Team, it makes the winter fun.

What attracted you to Hamilton's volleyball program?

I knew that Hamilton was a place where I could make an impact. Our coach was fairly new then and the program was growing. I also knew I wanted to go to a small liberal arts school, and Hamilton was perfect.

What is the toughest obstacle you have had to overcome in your athletic career?

My freshman year of high school I didn't make a single volleyball team. I was an absolute wreck, but I knew I still wanted to play volleyball. My dad found a private coach for me to work with and I worked with him three times a week. I made the freshman team the next year, but didn't make varsity until I was a senior. I just had to keep fighting and working.

My sophomore year at Hamilton, I broke my leg at Ski Team practice and had to get surgery to fix it. The recovery period was really long, and I didn't even walk for three months. I had about two and a half months to rehab myself back into NESCAC volleyball shape by August, which was rough.

How has the volleyball program evolved over the past four years?

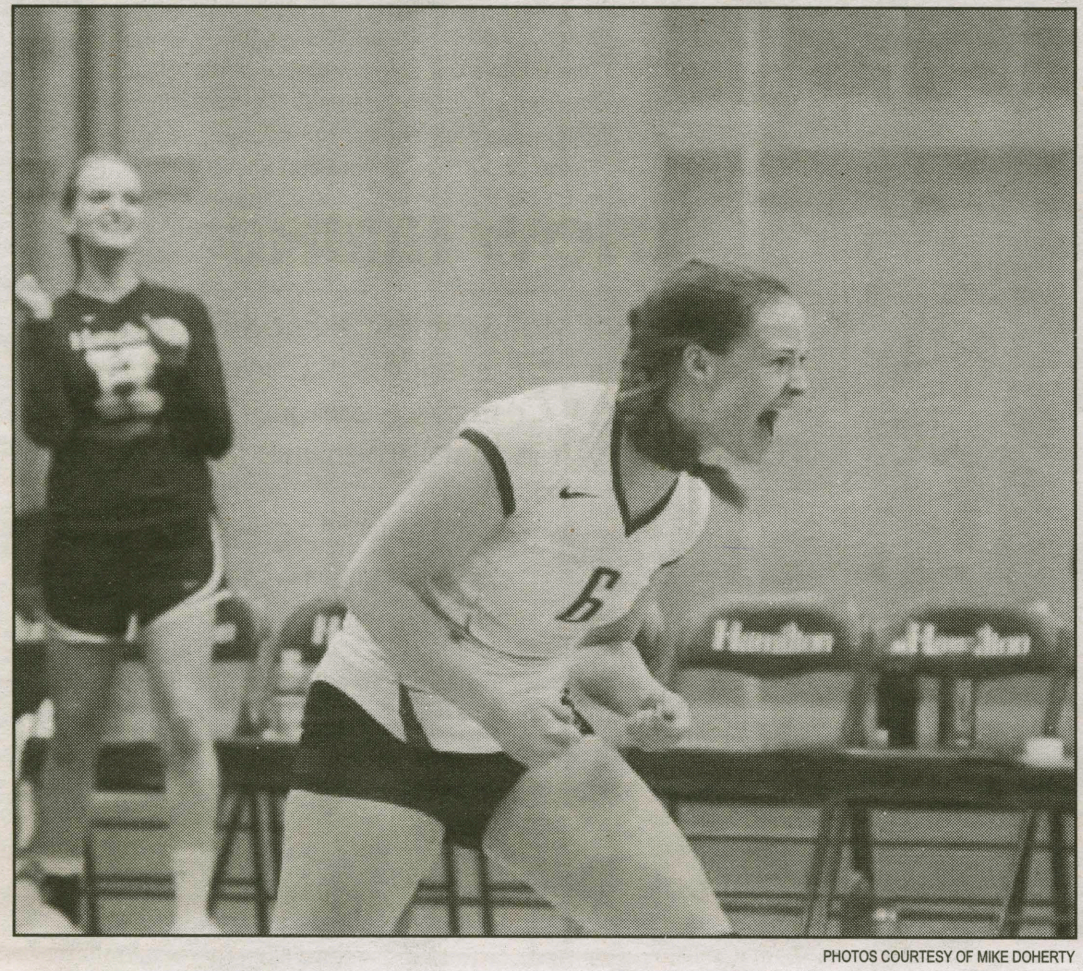
The teams aren't even comparable. We have recruited amazing talent, especially this season and also learned to trust our coaches more. I think that this year the program finally got respected as a competitor within the NESCAC, which was amazing.

Have you fulfilled your expectations for your senior season?

Yes, this year we qualified for NESCACs! I refused to graduate before that happened.

What was your favorite sports moment at Hamilton?

My favorite volleyball moment at Hamilton was in our playoffs match against Williams. We lost the first two sets, had won the third, and in the fourth match the score was 29-28 us. It was such a high pressure game, and the point was so intense. I don't remember how we ended up winning it, but I was so proud of how we fought throughout that point and executed the game plan perfectly to force the match into a fifth set.


PHOTOS COURTESY OF MIKE DOHERTY

Brown finished with the second-most digs in Hamilton history.

Football winless yet again

by Sterling Xie '16
Sports Editor

The Hamilton football team completed its season on Nov. 8 with a 31-10 defeat against the Bates Bobcats. The defeat means that the Continentals will end the season 0-8, marking their second consecutive winless campaign.

Hamilton's offensive execution was inconsistent at best, as the Continentals were just 3-of-17 on third down and turned the ball over five times. Neither team was able to generate much offensive traction—Hamilton averaged just 2.7 yards per play, while Bates averaged 4.6—but the Bobcats were able to pull away because of five turnovers from the Continentals. Bates scored 14 points off turnovers, including 34-yard fumble return for a touchdown in the first quarter.

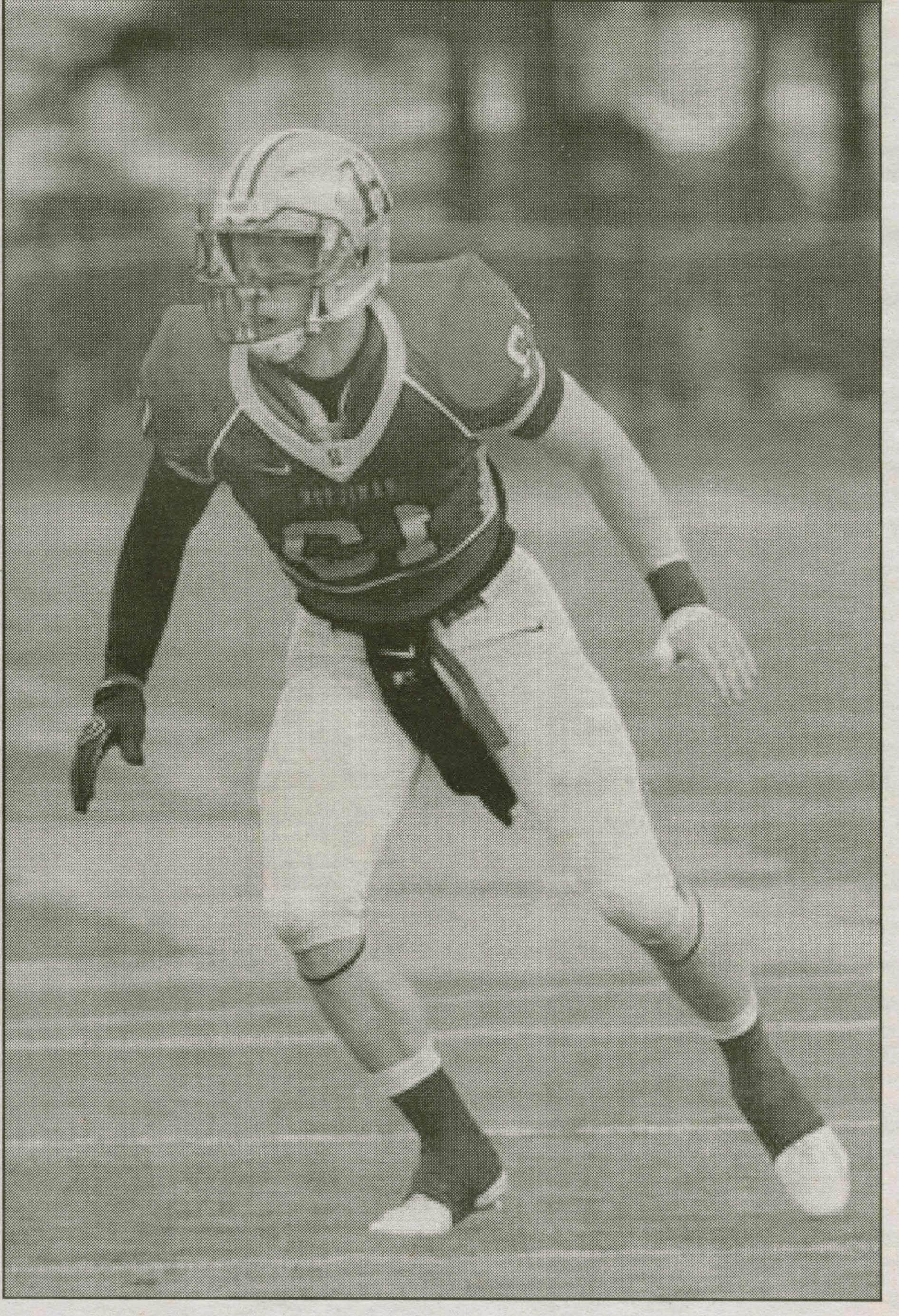
The Continentals did post a strong second quarter to keep the game close, scoring 10 consecutive points to answer Bates' 14-0 start. That included a season-long 99-yard touchdown drive, capped off by a touchdown pass from new starting quarterback Colin Pastorella '16 to Nick Caso '16. In his first career start, Pastorella went 12-of-39 for 166 yards, tossing four interceptions to go along with the touchdown.

The game's turning point came at the end of the second quarter, when Bates turned a short screen pass into a 35-yard gain that moved the ball down to the Hamilton three-yard line. The Bobcats punched it into the end zone on the next play for a 21-10 lead and maintained a double-digit lead the rest of the game.

Turnovers, which were Hamilton's undoing last Saturday, had been an issue all season. The Continentals fumbled 19 times this season, the highest total in the NESCAC, though they recovered 12 of them for a well above-average 63.1 percent fumble recovery rate. Additionally, Hamilton suffered in the most critical game situations, converting just 33 percent of third downs and scoring touchdowns on only 48 percent of red-zone trips. Those rates ranked seventh and ninth in the NESCAC this season, respectively.

That frequently led to short fields for the defense to defend, causing Hamilton to concede a conference-high 31.5 points per game. The Continentals only 338 yards per game, seventh in the NESCAC, but had issues generating big plays. Hamilton recorded just 12 turnovers and three sacks on the season, and was the only NESCAC team not to score a defensive touchdown.

Still, there were no secrets that 2014 was a rebuilding campaign for Hamilton. The Continentals did improve their season point differential by 37 points this year, an average of 4.6 points per game. Hamilton will head into next fall looking to break its 20-game winless streak.



Hockey teams drop the puck this weekend

by Daphne Assimakopoulos '17
Sports Writer

The ice is down on Russel Sage Rink, and the all too familiar smell of hockey wafts into the surrounding hallways. Ice hockey has returned to the Hill, with both the men's and women's teams beginning practices this past Saturday.

The women's team finished last season with a record of 8-14-2. Katie Parkman '17 and Sara Taffe '17 both began their Hamilton careers on high notes, with incredibly successful first seasons.

Parkman tied for ninth place in the NESCAC with 10 goals scored last season, and her total offense tallies also included six assists and 16 points earned. Defender Taffe also tied for ninth place in defender scoring with 11 points.

Sarah Schuchardt '15 returns as the only veteran goal tender on the squad, having posted a 2.37 goals-against average last season over 10 games.

The men's team is coming off of a 5-15-3 campaign in 2013-14. The Continentals have lost impact players Mike DiMare '14, Joe Quattrocchi '14 and Evan Haney '14. However Hamilton has hung onto key players Kenny Matheson '16 and Robbie Murden '17.

Murden scored 11 goals last season, second only to DiMare on the Hamilton squad last season. Murden also recorded 13 assists and tallied 24 total points, good for 16th place in the NESCAC.

Matheson, a team captain, ranked third for offensive production on the Continental squad in 2013. Matheson scored eight goals, recorded 13 assists and earned 21 points.

This year, the Continentals are led by seniors Pat Curtis '15, Nick Vassos '15, Joe Rausch '15, Patrick Sen '15, Marko Brelih '15 and Zach Arnold '15. Curtis scored nine goals last year, and Arnold recorded an impressive .921 save percentage. Brelih was selected to the NESCAC all-conference team in the past.

"Our senior class consists of 6 great leaders. They have contributed both on and off the ice to the hockey program over the past three seasons" expressed Murden. "Internally, the other three classes have made it a goal of ours to help all six of them graduate as winners"

Matheson expressed similar sentiment, adding, "They don't need a letter on their jersey for everyone else to see them as leaders. They'll be counted on to show the first-years just how much work it takes to be good at this level and of course to continue to contribute like they have for the past three seasons."

This year the Continentals also add seven first-years, who will spark new vigor and energy into the program.

Robbie Murden '17 led the team with seven goals last season.

"I am very excited about our freshmen class. Every single player has the ability to step in and contribute to our success immediately" commented Murden. "We have added four very good forwards, a skilled defenseman, and two great goaltenders. While other NESCAC schools have recruited well, I think that we have the most well rounded and complete freshmen class in the league."

Matheson added, "Our incoming freshman have been fitting in well with the rest of the guys and we're looking for them to step in and be contributors right from the beginning. They're a talented class and they'll be pushing guys to be better every day creating more competition for spots."

Moving forward, both Matheson and Murden expressed enthusiasm for towards their upcoming season. "As a team, our primary goal for the regular season is finish in one of the top four spots in the NESCAC" commented Murden. "Doing so ensures home ice for the playoffs. Our eventual goal is to utilize home ice and win a NESCAC championship. Our NESCAC season only consists of 18 games so it is imperative that we get off to a great start in-conference. Students can expect to see us play a fast-paced entertaining style of hockey."

The men's season-opener, the annual Citrus Bowl, is this Saturday at 7 pm then Sunday at 3 pm, the women open their season game against Amherst.

Volleyball comeback vs. Williams falls short

by Jack Vissicchio '17
Sports Contributor

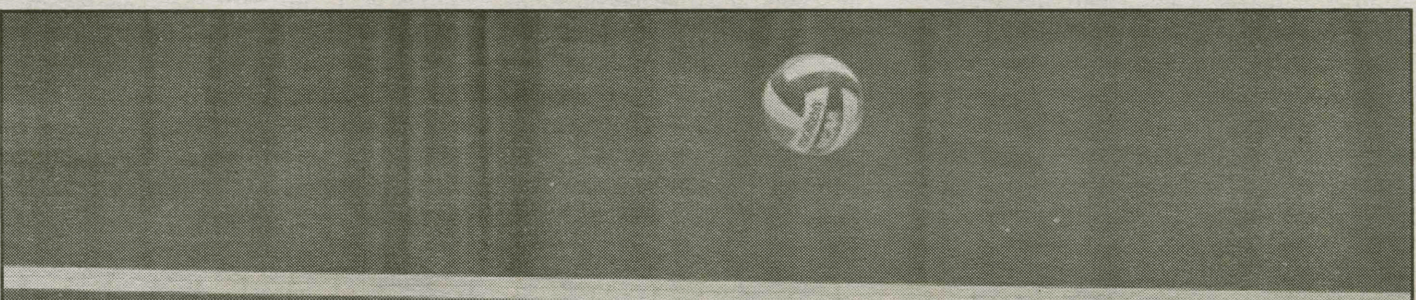
The volleyball team wrapped up one of their most successful seasons (15-12) in recent memory on Nov. 7. Hamilton suffered a tight loss at the hands of Williams (23-4 overall), the defending conference champion and No. 2 seed, in the quarterfinals of the NESCAC tournament at Tufts. The girls fought hard in their first NESCAC tournament match since 2000, erasing an early two-set deficit, only to fall just short of completing the comeback with a fifth set loss.

In the first two sets, the Continentals hung tight but were eventually overmatched by the consistent play of Williams. Undiscouraged, they were able to flip the script in the third and fourth sets behind the strong play of seniors Erin Casey '15 and Anna Brown '15, grinding out victories in both sets by just a combined total of three points. But, in the end, the girls just did not have enough to move on to the next round, as Williams prevailed 15-12 in the fifth.

The Continentals deployed a well-rounded attack throughout the match. Emma Lonadier '15 and Brown lead the way with 13 kills each while the team also received crucial offensive contributions from Casey and Jessica Weston '17. Weston was also strong on the defensive end, adding a team-high five blocks, with Margaret O'Brien '18 followed closely behind with four of her own. Brown led both teams with 28 digs in her final career game. It was yet another strong performance from the senior, as she finished her career second on the all-time digs list with 1,683. Kyndal Burdin '18 led the team with a total of 42 assists.

Despite the tough loss, the season was an undeniable success for the women's team. "Although we lost...it was still a great way to end the season," says Emily Rosen '15. "We executed the game plan exactly and everything we practiced during the week really carried over to the game. Throughout the whole game, the gym was filled with excitement and the other NESCAC players and coaches were all cheering us on. And next year's team will carry the energy and the Hamilton's reputation!"

Although they are losing key contributors in Casey and Brown next season, the continued development of the program has the future of the team looking bright.



PHOTOS COURTESY OF MIKE DOHERTY

The Continentals rallied from two sets down, only to fall three points short of completing the comeback.

SPECTATOR SPORTS
November 13, 2014

Ultimate teams compete at Northeast Classic

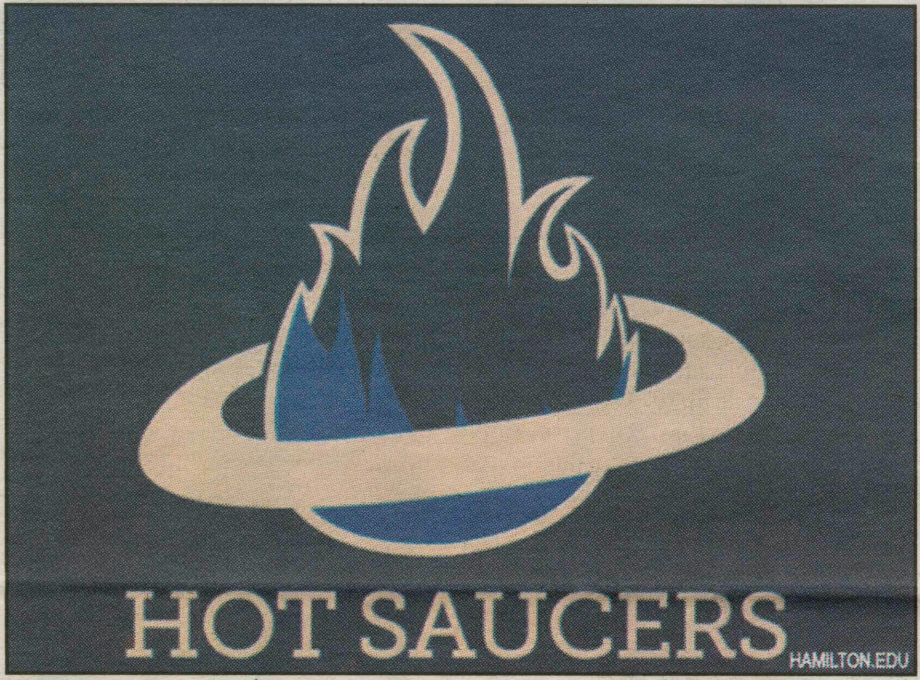
by Sterling Xie '16
Sports Editor

The Ultimate Frisbee teams are among the most competitive club teams on the Hill. On Nov. 1 and 2, both the Hot Saucers again reaffirmed their standing as one of the campus' best squads, as the women and men took first and second, respectively, in the Northeast Classic in Saratoga Springs, N.Y.

Played on the first weekend of November, the Northeast Classic (NEC) is a three-year-old tournament featuring both Division I and III ultimate teams. Although spring is the more competitive season, the NEC represents the most important benchmark of the fall campaign, as it serves as an opportunity to measure the progress of both the team's most experienced and newest members.

Paul Westin '15 notes that the tournament was a good barometer of how far the team's new members have come. "Although ultimate's more important season is in the spring for colleges, this is the culmination of our fall season, and we wanted to field a very competitive team," he said. "The fall season is a lot of learning, as the vast majority of people haven't played competitive ultimate before college. I was very impressed with how quickly information was absorbed this year, and we were able to cover all the concepts and skills we wanted to easily."

In the preliminary rounds, the Saucers won all three of their pool games against Skidmore, Central Connecticut State and UMass-Lowell, before winning a final cross-pool game against Amherst, 13-8. With each game played to 13 total points, the Continentals won their first four games with a cumulative point total of plus-30, an extremely impressive feat considering the limited points ceiling and the stiff level of competition.



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The second and final day on Sunday was much tougher. "We had sustained a number of injuries over the course of the tournament," explained Westin, "and by the finals, we only had 12 active players." The Saucers needed a tiebreaking "universe point" to pull out a 10-9 win over Binghamton, then rallied from a 9-6 deficit to pull out an 11-9 victory over Amherst again. Unfortunately, the men subsequently lost in the finals by a 12-5 tally to Division I SUNY Albany. Still, the Saucers took second out of 18 teams at the NEC, an excellent cap to the fall season for a squad that brought its top squad of just 16 players.

Whereas the men struggled at the end of the weekend due to attrition, the women were able to roll over similarly talented competition. The women's tournament had just five teams participating, but the Sauce'hers trounced the field, winning each game easily.

Echoing Westin's earlier sentiments, Kateri Boucher '17 believes the tournament victory was an invaluable learning experience for the team's less experienced players. "We have been practicing every weekday since late August, and have also gone away to two other tournaments (in Rochester and Buffalo) and held our own round robin here at Hamilton, where we combined with the men's team. We had an incredible showing of new players this season, with almost 15 new girls who had never played the sport before. It's been amazing watching them grow as players."

In the finals, the Sauce'hers prevailed over Amherst in cold and windy conditions, routing the opposition 13-1. Boucher tossed the winning throw, finding Sam Mengual '16 in the end zone for the tournament-winning point.

The strong NEC showings continue a recent streak of excellence for both teams. Last spring, the women reached nationals with a victory at the Division III Metro East regional championships, which came on the heels of a second-place showing at the Western New York Division III Sectional Championship in Buffalo. Similarly, the men finished second at a tournament in Georgia over spring break.

This year, the more experienced women's team looks poised to return to nationals, while the men have impressively maintained their form despite losing all three senior captains to graduation last spring. With the invaluable experience they earned at the end of the fall season, look for both ultimate teams to make plenty of noise once again next semester.